

Application No. 10/783,427  
Amendment dated March 2, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of 2/15/05  
Attorney Docket No. 04-13137

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (currently amended) A collapsible container having a first upright position for holding items and a second folded compact position for storage, wherein said container comprises:

- a. a bottom panel ;
- b. a top frame ;
- c. two side panels said side panels being pivotally connected to opposite ends of the top frame ;
- d. a front folding panel comprising upper and lower ends and pivotally connected upper and lower panel sections, said front folding panel being pivotally connected to the top frame at its upper end and being pivotally connected to the bottom panel at its lower end;
- e. a back folding panel comprising upper and lower ends and pivotally connected upper and lower panel sections, said back folding panel being pivotally connected to the top frame at its upper end and being pivotally connected to the bottom panel at its lower end ;
- f. at least one L-shaped extending panel formed integral with the upper panel section of the front folding panel ;

- g. at least one L-shaped extending panel formed integral with the upper panel section of the back folding panel;
- h. at least one receiving groove formed in the lower panel section of the front folding panel ; wherein said receiving groove engages the L-shaped extending panel of the front folding panel when the container is in the upright position; and
- i. at least one receiving groove formed in the lower panel section of the back folding panel ; wherein said receiving groove engages the L-shaped extending panel of the back folding panel when the container is in the upright position; wherein engagement between the L-shaped extending panels and receiving grooves prevents the lower and upper panel sections of the front and back folding panels from folding outward when the container is in the upright position, and wherein the container can be folded into the compact position by pivotally swinging the side panels towards the top frame and folding the front and back folding panels inward to cause the container to collapse to the compact position.

Claim 2 (currently amended) The container of Claim 1, wherein:

The bottom panel comprises a base and a shallow border wall 1extending orthogonal and upward from the base, and wherein said border wall comprises opposite first and second side walls and opposite back and front walls.

Claim 3 (currently amended) The collapsible container of claim 2, wherein the front wall comprises a central hinge coupling panel that pivotally connects with a pin rod formed on the lower end of the front folding panel.

Claim 4 (currently amended) The collapsible container of claim 2 wherein the back wall comprises a central hinge coupling panel that pivotally connects with a pin rod formed on the lower end of the back folding panel.

Claim 5. (currently amended) The collapsible container of claim 2, further comprising a first aperture and a second aperture disposed in the first sidewall, and a first aperture and a second aperture disposed in the second sidewall, each of said apertures being disposed proximal to a corner of the border wall.

Claim 6. (currently amended) The collapsible container of Claim 5, further comprising first and second hinge pins disposed respectively in the first and second

apertures of the first sidewall, wherein the first hinge pin is connected to the front folding panel **6** and the second hinge pin is connected to the back folding panel .

Claim 7. (currently amended) The collapsible container of Claim 2, further comprising third and fourth hinge pins disposed respectively in the first and second apertures of the second sidewall, wherein the third hinge pin is connected to the front folding panel and the fourth hinge pin is connected to the back folding panel.

Claim 8. (currently amended) The collapsible container of Claim 2, wherein each of the upper panel sections comprises a first mating hinge notch at their respective lower edges that pivotally connects with a second mating hinge notch disposed at the respective upper edges of each of the lower panel sections.

Claim 9. (currently amended) The collapsible container of Claim 2, further comprising a pair of hinge notches disposed in the back wall, wherein each hinge notch, connects pivotally with the back folding panel via a hinge pin.

Claim 10. (currently amended) The collapsible container of Claim 2, further comprising a pair of hinge notches disposed in the front wall, wherein each hinge notch, connects pivotally with the front folding panel via a hinge pin.

Claim 11. (currently amended) The collapsible container of Claim 2, further comprising at least one central hinge coupling panel disposed in the back wall, wherein said central hinge coupling panel pivotally connects with the back folding panel.

Claim 12. (currently amended) The collapsible container of Claim 2, further comprising at least one central hinge coupling panel disposed in the front wall, wherein said central hinge coupling panel pivotally connects with the front folding panel.

Claim 13. (currently amended) The collapsible container of claim 1, wherein the top frame comprises a front frame wall, a back frame wall and a first sidewall and a second sidewall.

Claim 14. (currently amended) The collapsible container of Claim 13, further comprising at least one hinge notch and at least one hinge coupling panel disposed in the back frame wall, wherein said hinge notch and hinge coupling panel interface pivotally with the back folding panel.

Claim 15. (currently amended) The collapsible container of Claim 13, further comprising at least one hinge notch and at least one hinge coupling panel disposed in the front frame wall, wherein said hinge notch and hinge coupling panel interface pivotally with the front folding panel.

Claim 16. (currently amended) The collapsible container of Claim 2, further comprising a first and a second recessed portion each comprising an aperture and being formed in the front frame wall, said first and second recessed portions being disposed adjacent a corner of the top frame wherein the first recessed portion pivotally connects to an upper edge of the first side panel and the second recessed portion pivotally connects to an upper edge of the second side panel.

Claim 17. (currently amended) A collapsible container having a first upright position for holding items and a second compact position for storage, comprising:

- a. a top frame;
- b. a bottom panel;
- c. a first side panel pivotally connected to the top frame;
- d. a second side panel pivotally connected to the top frame;
- e. a front folding panel comprising upper and lower ends and pivotally connected upper and lower panel sections, said front folding panel being pivotally connected to the top frame at its upper end and being pivotally connected to the bottom panel at its lower end ;
- f. a back folding panel comprising upper and lower ends and pivotally connected upper and lower panel sections, said back folding panel being pivotally connected to the top frame at its upper end and being pivotally connected to the bottom panel at its lower end;

- g. at least one L-shaped extending panel formed integral with the upper panel section of the front folding panel;
- h. at least one L-shaped extending panel formed integral with the upper panel section of the back folding panel;
- i. at least one receiving groove formed in the lower panel section of the front folding panel; wherein said receiving groove engages the L-shaped extending panel of the front folding panel when the container is in the upright position; and
- j. at least one receiving groove formed in the lower panel section of the back folding panel; wherein said receiving groove engages the L-shaped extending panel of the back folding panel when the container is in the upright position; wherein engagement between the L-shaped extending panels and receiving grooves prevents the lower and upper panel sections of the front and back folding panels from folding outward when the container is in the upright position.

Claim 18. (currently amended) The collapsible container of claim 17, wherein the container can be folded into the compact position by pivotally swinging the first and second side panels towards the top frame and folding the front and back folding panels inward to cause the container to collapse to the compact position.

Claim 19. (cancelled)

Claim 20. (currently amended) A collapsible container comprising:

- a. a bottom panel, wherein said bottom panel comprises a base and a shallow border wall extending orthogonal and upwardly from the base; said shallow border wall comprising a first sidewall and second sidewall disposed opposite to one another, and a back wall and a front wall disposed opposite to one another;
- b. a front folding panel comprising an upper panel section and a lower panel section, wherein said upper panel section comprises a first mating hinge notch that pivotally connects with a second mating hinge notch disposed in the lower panel;
- c. a pair of hinge notches disposed in the front wall, wherein each hinge notch pivotally connects to the front folding panel;
- d. a back folding panel comprising an upper panel section and a lower panel section, wherein said upper panel section comprises a first mating hinge notch that pivotally connects with a second mating hinge notch disposed in the lower panel;
- e. a pair of hinge notches disposed in the back wall wherein each hinge notch pivotally connects to the back folding panel;
- f. at least a first aperture and a second aperture disposed in the first sidewall, and at least a first aperture and a second aperture disposed

in the second sidewall, each of said apertures being disposed proximal to a corner of the border wall;

- g. first and second hinge pins disposed respectively in the first and second apertures of the first sidewall, wherein the first hinge pin is connected to the front folding panel and the second hinge pin is connected to the back folding panel;
- h. third and fourth hinge pins disposed respectively in the first and second apertures of the second sidewall, wherein the third hinge pin is connected to the front folding panel and the fourth hinge pin is connected to the back folding panel;
- i. at least one central hinge coupling panel disposed in the back wall, wherein said central hinge coupling panel pivotally connects to the back folding panel;
- j. at least one central hinge coupling panel disposed in the front wall, wherein said central hinge coupling panel pivotally connects with the front folding panel;
- k. at least one L-shaped extending panel formed integral with the upper section of the front folding panel and at least one L-shaped extending panel formed integral with the upper section of the back folding panel;

1. at least one recess formed integral with the bottom section of the front folding panel; wherein said recess interfaces with the L-shaped extending panel of the front folding panel;
- m. at least one recess formed integral with the bottom section of the back folding panel, wherein said recess interfaces with the L-shaped extending panel of the back folding panel;
- n. a top frame comprising a front frame wall a back frame wall, and a first sidewall and second sidewall disposed opposite to one another;
- o. at least one hinge notch and at least one hinge coupling panel disposed in the back frame wall, wherein said hinge notch and hinge coupling panel interface with the back folding panel;
- p. at least one hinge notch and at least one hinge coupling panel disposed in the front frame wall, wherein said hinge notch and hinge coupling panel interface with the front folding panel;
- q. a first and a second recessed portion each comprising an aperture and being formed in the front frame wall, said first and second recessed portions being disposed adjacent a corner of the top frame, wherein the first recessed portion pivotally connects to an upper edge of the first side panel and the second recessed portion pivotally connects to an upper edge of the second side panel; wherein the pivot axes of the side panels are disposed above the pivot axes of the front folding panel and back folding panel and the container can be

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folded by pivotally swing the side panels towards the top frame and then folding the front folding panel and back folding panel inward to cause the frame to collapse to a compact configuration.